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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1870.

THE ELECTION IN THE FIRST DISTRICT.

The election yesterday resulted in the triumph of the Democratic nominee by a majority that astonishes both friends and foes. On the eve of the battle the leaders of both parties were equally confident of success. At the previous Senatorial election, in 1869, it was carried by the Democracy, according to the count they made of the votes polled, and Watt only secured his seat by a vigorous contest before a friendly tribunal, which declared his majority to be 176. In October, 1870, the Republican nominee obtained a majority of about one thousand votes, but this was derived chiefly from the newly enfranchised colored citizens, and, practically, the district may be considered, when they are thrown out of view, as a very close one, except at times when the Registry law is not stringently enforced, while when full play is given to the talent of the Democratic manipulators of the Third and Fourth wards, they can roll up any number of votes that the exigencies of the party may require, as was shown in the election of 1868 and more previous contests. Although the Registry law is theoretically in force now, it was not, and in the nature of things it could not be, as rigidly applied to a special as a general election; and the returns from various precincts of the Fourth ward leave little room for doubt that the Democratic nominee profited greatly by the practical difficulty attending its stringent enforcement. It is hard to account in any other way for an increase in the Democratic vote of the Fourth ward from 2376 in October, 1870, at a general election, to 2633, in December, at a special election, and for a similar increase of the Democratic strength in the Second and Third wards.

It must be confessed, however, that, irrespective of all probable or actual frauds on the part of the Democracy, their management of the canvass was wonderfully skillful and efficient. The police force was never so well handled. The citizens of Philadelphia will foot the bill for hundreds of Dechert's best canvassers when they pay their tax for police purposes. Dreading the passage of a Metropolitan Police bill, these men worked with a will for their bread and butter; and while an immense number of them were ordered or permitted to attire themselves in citizen's clothing and devote their whole energy to the task of drumming up Democratic recruits, an unusually large number in official garb were stationed near the Republican precincts to overawe Republican voters. Great pains were also taken to exert a favorable influence upon the German voters of the district. They were asked to support Mr. Dechart on national and personal grounds, and these appeals were so adroitly made that there is little doubt of their efficiency in numerous cases. Even the colored voters, when they were not bullied, were sometimes cajoled, and the most herculean exertions were made to secure a full turnout of the Democratic rank and file.

The Republican party, on the other hand, which polled one thousand votes more in the district in October than it did yesterday, contains many members who did not and who will not recognize as cheerfully as the rank and file of the Democracy the necessity of fulfilling their party obligations on occasions like special elections. They forget to turn out, or they do not care for the result. This tendency to indifference has also been fearfully strengthened by the fact that, notwithstanding the continuous Republican majority in the State Senate during the last ten years, many flagrant outrages have been perpetrated upon this city, and by the fact that the Metropolitan Police bill has failed either through the folly, the venality, or the incompetency of Republican legislators, despite their partisan dominance. There is also a growing dissatisfaction with the general management of public affairs in the State and nation which gradually diminishes the voting strength of the Republicans here as elsewhere, and which had a decided influence in the contest yesterday.

On the whole, we think that Colonel Dechart's majority has been swelled to undue proportions by some of the influences referred to, but that he still received legally and properly a sufficient number of votes to carry the district.

THE SAN DOMINGO QUESTION.

The San Domingo annexation question came up yesterday in the Senate, and it was debated, we regret to say, by some of the Senators in anything but a proper spirit. Messrs. Sumner, Schurz, and some others appear to have taken issue with the President upon this subject purely upon personal grounds, and their opposition to any steps towards the annexation of one of the most valuable islands in the West Indies seems to be based more upon a desire to snub the Executive than to serve the country. It is an indisputable fact that we greatly need just such a station in the West Indies, if we are to be able at all times to maintain our supremacy in the Gulf of Mexico, as the possession of San Domingo will give us. If we can obtain this island in a proper manner and without paying for it an exorbitant price, or involving ourselves in serious difficulties that will make the ac-

quisition an embarrassment rather than an aid, we ought to do so. It is the plain duty of the Senate, therefore, to consider the whole subject from a broad and national standpoint, consulting the good of the country rather than the wishes, one way or the other, of the President. It would be the height of folly to annex San Domingo simply because the President has set his heart upon it, when its possession might prove a nuisance of the first magnitude; and it would be equally foolish to refuse to accept what promises to be an acquisition of the greatest value for no other reason than that certain Senators have quarrelled with the President. It is the duty of Congress to make such an investigation into the advisability of annexing San Domingo as has never yet been made, and to determine as nearly as possible, first, whether it is worth having; and second, whether we can get it upon sufficiently advantageous terms. In event of our becoming involved in a foreign war, our great need of a first-class naval station in the West Indies will be demonstrated in a very conclusive manner, and the sooner we obtain possession of such a station the better it will be for us. We do not desire that the Senate should take any precipitate action in regard to the annexation of San Domingo, but it would be gratifying if the subject were discussed in a different spirit, from what it has been, and if certain Senators would cease making a personal issue with the President on the subject.

THE SPANISH THRONE.

Tribulation is in store for unhappy Spain. The account published by us recently of the proceedings in the Cortes on the 16th of November, the day on which the Duke of Aosta was elected to the throne, showed that the attempt to force the young Italian prince upon the Spanish nation by Prim and his followers was stubbornly resisted a large number of the deputies. All the regular and irregular parliamentary tricks and devices were resorted to in order to prevent a vote being taken, and both before and after the vote the uproar and confusion in the Chamber were terrible. The minority made a show of acquiescing in the result, but it was evident that by a very large party the election of Prince Amadeus is regarded with indifference, while by a still larger party it will be antagonized to the very last.

A recent mail from Europe brings a letter from Madrid in which it is stated that Senor Zorrilla, the President of the Cortes, before starting for Florence to lay the crown at the feet of the King-elect, sent a circular letter to the 191 deputies who cast their votes for Prince Amadeus, in which he stated that the new dynasty will be fiercely assailed by those hostile to it, and that they were already preparing for the coming struggle. Senor Zorrilla therefore appeals to the deputies who voted for the Prince for an effort on their part to get up a little enthusiasm. He demands that they shall exercise their influence among their constituents in the provinces, get up demonstrations by the people, and not return to Madrid without bringing with them long lists of names indorsing the action of the Cortes, and welcoming the new King to the vacant throne.

What with the Bourbonists, the Carlists, the Montpensierists, and, above all, the Republicans, to oppose him at every turn and thwart him at every step, King Amadeus I is likely to encounter a most unwelcome and undesirable task. It will require the possession of many statesmanlike qualities and a great deal of enthusiasm to keep his heart in his work and his feet on the throne. If he succeeds, he will deserve well of Spain and the world; if he fails, he will have good cause to regret that he did not study more closely the history of Maximilian of Mexico.

STILL ANOTHER WAR CLOUD.—If peace is ever restored again in Europe it is to be feared there will arise a war of individuals almost as fierce as the war of nations now progressing. What with the private correspondence that has been made public, and the indiscreet observations made by individuals respecting each other to newspaper correspondents who have had interviews with them, there is every reason to anticipate no small unpleasantness when everybody meets again in peace. For instance, if Changarnier, Bourbaki, Bazaine come together next year in Paris at a small dinner party, it will require much brilliant conversation on the part of their hosts to prevent an awkwardness between her guests. Bourbaki certainly shrugged his shoulders the other day when Bazaine's name was mentioned by M. Gambetta at Tours, and the abrupt was immediately telegraphed all over Europe, and by the Atlantic cable to America; and now Changarnier has told a newspaper correspondent that Bazaine was incompetent and selfish. Everybody who was shut up in Metz seems to be quite agreed upon the point of Bazaine's selfishness; whether he insisted on taking more than his share of horseflesh at dinner or scooped out the remains of the salt-cellar is not stated, and probably never will be known; but that he was horridly selfish there can be little doubt. Still it shows what brave men Changarnier and Bourbaki are to shrug their shoulders and speak with such coolness of a fire-eating marshal, who, unless he is very good natured with all his selfishness, may possibly be rushing all over France in a few months with a drawn sword ready to cut off the head of every one who has abused him. Then, again, how disgraceable it must be for the late Minister of Marine to hear that a long report of his has been found describing General Prim as an intriguing adventurer, who, with the help of his wife's relations, played all possible tricks on the French Government respecting the Mexican war. If this does not lead to a duel Prim is not the man he is generally taken for. Altogether the prospects of peace are not reassuring, but when we consider how everybody has compromised everybody, and that it is six of one and half a dozen of the other, we must hope that the great men of the present time will be satisfied with the blood that has been shed in the war, and not take to shedding a little more on their private account when it is over.

NOTICES.

MEN'S WINTER BUSINESS COATS, ALL WOOL, FOR SIX DOLLARS. BENNETT & CO., TOWER HALL, NO. 115 MARKET STREET, HALF-WAY BETWEEN FIFTH AND SIXTH STREETS. ARE CLOSING OUT A LOT OF COATS AT ABOVE-NAMED PRICE. (Other goods in proportion.) SEE advertisement of Almore's Mince Meat on Eighth Page.

HAINES BROS.' PIANOS.—Of the ten hundred piano manufacturers in the United States, none enjoy a better reputation for turning out first-class stock than do the Messrs. Haines Bros., of New York. They have not made such extraordinary efforts as some have to get their instruments before the public, but their experience in business has taught them that the pianos they manufacture, by their superior tone and excellence, speak, as it were, for themselves; and those who purchase and use the instruments understandingly, do not hesitate to recommend them to their friends, and thus the pianos gain an enviable notoriety. These gentlemen have been in the piano business for twenty years, both being practical piano makers, and understand every department of their trade, and every instrument sent from their factory, be the price high or low, is thoroughly examined and pronounced perfect before it is sold.

The instruments are made in every style of finish, and for tone cannot be surpassed in this country. We have sold over 2000, and each with a guarantee of five years. Hundreds of buyers purchase from us who start out reluctantly to look, feeling they must spend \$200, or \$300, or \$500, but find a splendid piano can be bought at about two-thirds these sums or less. Come and see us.

GOULD & FISCHER, No. 923 Chesnut street.

WHITMAN'S JUJUBE.—For singers and public speakers, to keep the throat moist and voice clear, it is excellent. 25 cents per box. DRUGGISTS sell it. STEPHEN F. WHITMAN & SON, Sole Manufacturers, S. W. corner of Twelfth and Market streets.

CLOTHING.

Great Brown Hall. Overcoats! The watchword of to-day, on the lips of every true man who feels the frosty air of the December morning.

“OVERCOAT S” OVERCOATS for Christmas. OVERCOATS for New Year's. OVERCOATS for the Holidays. OVERCOATS for Cold Days and Nights. OVERCOATS for Small Boys. OVERCOATS for Growing Lads. OVERCOATS for Great Men. OVERCOATS for Everybody. OVERCOATS Cheap! Cheap!

Coachmen's Coats; Fine Gilegarrys; Storm-coats; Cape Coats; Chinchilla Coats, etc. etc. etc. etc. etc. etc. etc. etc. etc. etc.

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LAMBREQUINS.

STEVENSON & SCHWEMMER, No. 1113 CHESNUT Street, GIRARD ROW.

FINE BORDERED SHADES,

With best fixtures, put up \$1.50 each. COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF TABLE AND PIANO COVERS. 10 12 wsm5m4p

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ESTABLISHED 1853. JOSEPH BECKHAUS, No. 1204 FRANKFORD Avenue, ABOVE GIRARD AVENUE.

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HERKNESS' PERPETUITY SALE OF AN ELEGANT DRIVING ESTABLISHMENT. On Saturday Morning, At 10 o'clock, will be sold, without reserve, by order of S. J. & T. H. Herkness, Trustees, A pair of black horses (horse and mare), 3 and 9 years old, 16 hands high, long tails. ALSO, An elegant park phaeton, by Collings. No-top wagon, by Wallis & Blackston. Harness, by Phillips. Sleigh, pole and shafts, by Tiedeken. Horse blankets, robes, covers, etc. May be seen at Hart's stable, Broad street, above Green, previous to sale. ALFRED M. HEKNESS, Auctioneer. 12 21 2m4p

SEWING MACHINES.

THE WHEELER & WILSON SEWING MACHINE, For Sale on Easy Terms. NO. 914 CHESNUT STREET. PHILADELPHIA.

DRY GOODS.

Important Notice. The subscribers have received an importation of

HANDKERCHIEFS

Similar to those which have just been closed out by them at such low figures. These goods should have arrived some weeks since, in anticipation of Christmas sales. Being rather late, they have determined to close them out at prices which cannot fail to attract attention.

PERKINS & CO.,

9 South NINTH Street, 12 21 4t PHILADELPHIA.

JEWELRY AND SILVERWARE.

HOLIDAY GOODS.

J. E. CALDWELL & CO., JEWELLERS, No. 902 CHESNUT Street, Open this day a large invoice of

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Of Newest Designs, just arrived from Naples. They will also open on Monday next an invoice of

English Fancy Goods,

Including a fresh supply of

Ladies' Furnished Work Baskets.

Their stock of

PARIS AND VIENNA NOVELTIES

Superior to that of any previous season.

CHRISTMAS GOODS,

In Gold, Silver, Bronze, Crystal, Leather, Wood, Etc. Etc.

AT PRICES SUITED TO THE TIMES.

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MASON & HAMLIN ORGAN CO. The CABINET ORGANS made by this Company are of such universal reputation, not only throughout America but also in Europe, and are so generally the ACKNOWLEDGED STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE among instruments of the class, that few need to be assured of their superiority. PRICES REDUCED, OCTOBER, 1870. RANGE OF PRICE FROM \$50 to \$1000. A NEW ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE, with full information, and TESTIMONIAL CIRCULAR, will be sent free to any one desiring them. GOULD & FISCHER, No. 923 CHESNUT Street, PHILADELPHIA. 12 10 12t 4p

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CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

EVERY VARIETY OF

Silk, Alpaca, and Gingham

UMBRELLAS,

WITH IVORY, PIMENTO, AND PARTRIDGE HANDLES, FOR SALE BY

WM. A. DROWN & CO.,

No. 246 MARKET Street, 12 14 10t 4p PHILADELPHIA.

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EDWIN HALL, No. 28 South SECOND Street, INVITES ATTENTION TO HIS STOCK OF

RICH BLACK SILKS, RICH COLORED SILKS, FASHIONABLE DRESS GOODS, BROCHE AND BLANKET SHAWLS, SILK CLOAKING VELVETS, SILK PLUSHES AND VELVETEENS, ASTRAKHAN AND BEAVER CLOTHS, CARACULLA CLOTHS, all colors.

Pointe Lace and Applique Collars, Valenciennes Collars, and Handkerchiefs to match, Thread and Linen Collars, Handkerchiefs in Fancy Boxes, Roman Sashes, Ties and Sash Ribbons, Kid, Beaver and Cloth Gloves, With a variety of other goods suitable for HOLIDAY GIFTS.

N. B.—We guarantee to sell the same quality, shade, and style of Silks, Dress Goods, Valots, Shawls, etc., as low as any other house in Philadelphia.

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AT PRICES THAT WILL PLEASE EVERY ONE.

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ROSEWOOD, PAPIER MACHE, MAHOGANY, WALNUT AND FANCY WOODS.

Writing Desks, with lock and key, \$1.00; Portfolios, from 30c. up. Travelling Cases; Ladies' and Gents' Dressing Cases. Cigar Cases and Match Boxes; Wallets; Gold Pens and Pencils. Wostenholm's Penknives; Bronze Inkstands and Paper Weights. Scotch and Vienna Goods, Pen Wipers, Card Cases, etc. Water Colors; Backgammon Boards, Parlor Croquet and Billiards, Games, etc.

USEFUL CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

A Monogram and Box of Paper and Envelopes, containing 4 quires and 4 packs, stamped in colors, \$3.00. A Monogram engraved to order without charge to those buying \$5.00 of Paper and Envelopes. Initial Boxes containing 1 quire French Paper and Envelopes, 25 cents. A large variety of STATIONERY of every description.

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No. 913 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA.

H. & A. C. VAN BEIL

ARE THE WINE MERCHANTS OF THE WORLD!

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Younger's Scotch Ale, Guinness' Lublin Stout, Allsopp's English Ale, Barclay & Perkins' Stout, Bass' English Ale, Hibbert's London Porter.

The BEST of everything in our line PURCHASED FOR CASH and selected by ourselves, and not received on commission from failing New York jobbers.

Chartreuse in Pints and Quarts. Red and White Curacao. "Dutch Anisette." Absinthe. Maraschino. Kirsch Wasser.

Fine French Cordials, in Cut Glass Decanters. Liqueur Benedictinum, for which we are the Sole Agents.

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In selecting fine Wines we depend upon our judgment, and import such vintages and such brands as have stood the test of years.

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Of the most Celebrated Brands.

CIGARS IMPORTED BY H. & A. C. VAN BEIL, And sold at lower prices than most houses purchase at.

We hardly think it necessary to assure our friends that Corner Groceries are not the depositories of the Fine Wines of the World.

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